

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 10, 11, 18 and 19 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4-9, 12-17 and 20-24 have been amended. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this application and other applications. New claims 25 and 26 have been added to round out the scope of protection afforded the invention. Claims 1, 4-9, 12-17, and 20-26 are pending in this application.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Piosenka (U.S. 5,389,738). Claims 3-8, 11-16 and 19-24 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 2 and 3. Claim 9 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 10 and 11. Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 18 and 19. Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim (claim 1). Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim (claim 9). Claim 22 has been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim (claim 17). As noted in the Office Action, each of independent claims 1, 6, 9, 14, 17 and 22 should now be allowable over the prior art of record. Each of claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16, 20, 21, 23 and 24 is dependent upon one of claims 1, 6, 9, 14, 17 or 22, and therefore allowable along with claims 1, 6, 9, 14, 17 or 22.

New claim 25 includes limitations substantially similar to those of claim 1 as amended. For the same reasons claim 1 as amended is allowable over the prior art of record, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 25 is allowable. Claim 26, dependent upon claim 25, is allowable along with claim 25 and on its own merits.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this case are in a condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. A. Lemm", is written over a horizontal line.

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